

Message

**From:** Kondreck, Robert [kondreck.robert@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/25/2023 9:25:45 PM  
**To:** Falconio, Tony [Tony.Falconio@Illinois.gov]; Linduska, Rachel [Linduska.Rachel@epa.gov]; Biggs, Kim [Kim.Biggs@Illinois.gov]; Muhtsun, Ruth [muhtsun.ruth@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Ruesch, Paul [ruesch.paul@epa.gov]; Borys, Eric [Eric.Borys@Illinois.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: La Salle Chemical Plant Fire - Question about Potassium Permanganate

Added a comment about the quantity and disposal of the sludge based on conversations with Carus this afternoon.

---

**From:** Falconio, Tony <Tony.Falconio@Illinois.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 2:12 PM  
**To:** Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>; Linduska, Rachel <Linduska.Rachel@epa.gov>; Biggs, Kim <Kim.Biggs@Illinois.gov>; Muhtsun, Ruth <muhtsun.ruth@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ruesch, Paul <ruesch.paul@epa.gov>; Borys, Eric <Eric.Borys@Illinois.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: La Salle Chemical Plant Fire - Question about Potassium Permanganate

Sounds good to me. My only comment would be do we want to comment on what is going to happen with the sludge?



**Tony Falconio | Manager**

Office of Emergency Response

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency



1021 North Grand Avenue East, Springfield, IL 62794

(217) 558-1673

(217) 900-0492



[tony.falconio@illinois.gov](mailto:tony.falconio@illinois.gov)

[www2.illinois.gov/epa](http://www2.illinois.gov/epa)

---

**From:** Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 1:29 PM  
**To:** Linduska, Rachel <Linduska.Rachel@epa.gov>; Biggs, Kim <Kim.Biggs@Illinois.gov>; Muhtsun, Ruth <muhtsun.ruth@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Falconio, Tony <Tony.Falconio@Illinois.gov>; Ruesch, Paul <ruesch.paul@epa.gov>; Borys, Eric <Eric.Borys@Illinois.gov>  
**Subject:** [External] La Salle Chemical Plant Fire - Question about Potassium Permanganate

Hello,

I spoke to Brent with the City earlier and said there were more questions down the pipeline but he hasn't seen any of them. Below is a draft response to a community concern that can be found at the bottom of the e-mail thread. Would it be possible to review the technical statement (Paul, Tony, or Eric) and put this out as part of an FAQ (Rachel/Ruth, Kim, Brent?)?

**What happened to all the Potassium Permanganate from the fire?**

As the community knows, some of the Potassium Permanganate and its derivatives such as manganese dioxide were deposited throughout the community. Some of the product was mixed with water during firefighting efforts and was diverted to an on-site emergency containment pond. The diversion occurred due to an autosampler that detected manganese compounds and change in pH in the water in the discharge line. If this diversion did not happen Potassium Permanganate would have ended up in the Little Vermillion River. It is estimated that 1,653,000-gallons of firefighting water, Potassium Permanganate, and derivative compounds mix are currently in the emergency containment pond. Due to the large quantities of water used in firefighting there does appear to be some soil within the Carus Facility that was

impacted. Carus personnel are aware of this and it will be assessed during remediation. Lastly, some altered Potassium Permanganate was still in the Warehouse area in the form of a thick sludge. Approximately 16, 20-yard roll-off boxes of this material are on-site waiting approval for off-site disposal.

Thanks,  
Rob

---

**From:** Brent Bader <b.bader@lasalle-il.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 9:54 AM  
**To:** Kondreck, Robert <kondreck.robert@epa.gov>; Ruesch, Paul <ruesch.paul@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Question about Potassium Permanganate

And the resident's question. We were told more questions were coming from the group, but have not received any yet.

**Brent Bader**  
Director of Public Relations and Community Development  
Deputy City Clerk  
FOIA Officer  
City of La Salle  
745 Second Street  
La Salle, IL 61301-2501  
P: 815-223-3755 x 5028  
F: 815-223-9508  
[www.lasalle-il.gov](http://www.lasalle-il.gov)



---

**From:** Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 9:23 PM  
**To:** Brent Bader <b.bader@lasalle-il.gov>  
**Cc:** Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)  
**Subject:** Question about Potassium Permanganate

Hi Brent,

Thank you for the interactive City Council meeting on Monday. I am submitting my question in writing as a follow up to my asking it at the meeting. I asked what happened to the reported 1 million pounds of potassium permanganate. It was not a rhetorical or esoteric question. If a semi can be loaded with about 40,000 lbs of product, that would mean that at least 25 semi loads of the chemical was released in the atmosphere. Seriously, where did it go? Carus and the responding agencies would have us believe that it is not in the air, on the land, or in the water. So where is it? Some of the particulates are accounted for on the homes we know it landed on, but that does not equal anything near 25 semi loads. Can some one please answer that question for me? To me, it has to be somewhere, so maybe we need to look a little deeper. This is the main reason I do not believe that our area is not contaminated with potassium permanganate or its equally dangerous derivative, manganese dioxide.

Respectfully,  
Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

State of Illinois - CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information contained in this communication is confidential, may be attorney-client privileged or attorney work product, may constitute inside information or internal deliberative staff communication, and is intended only for the use of the addressee. Unauthorized use, disclosure or copying of this communication or any part thereof is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail and destroy this communication and all copies thereof, including all attachments. Receipt by an unintended recipient does not waive attorney-client privilege, attorney work product privilege, or any other exemption from disclosure.